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a condensed statement of the reasons for the judgment, and in skilfully distinguishing the case from prior decisions. It may be hoped that the praiseworthy example of the English courts may ultimately be adopted, and those cases only be discussed at length where, on account of the gravity and importance of the question, a full discussion is necessary. The courts ought to assume that the profession is familiar with previous controlling authorities upon the same point, at least when they have been decided in the same State.

The practice of delivering "per curiam" opinions, which seems to be revived in the same district, probably on account of the press of business, is not so praiseworthy. Quite a number of these are reported in this volume. The fact that a particular judge is responsible for the reasons given for a decision, is, to some extent, a guarantee that the subject has been carefully examined. It would seem to be a good general rule that no opinion should be published which has not a voucher for its paternity.

The great variety of subjects discussed in the cases reported, strikingly illustrates the character of the business coming before the New York courts. We have not even space to allude to the principal decisions.

The volume contains in its Appendix eloquent and just tributes, by prominent members of the New York bar, to the memory of Hon. William Kent, son of the late distinguished Chancellor Kent.

Mr. Barbour's experience and skill as a reporter is a guarantee that his portion of the work is well done. We commend the volume to the favorable notice of the profession.

T. W. D.

A TREATISE ON THE SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE OF CONTRACTS, including those of Public Companies. By EDWARD FRY, of Lincoln's Inn, Esq., Barrister-at-Law. SECOND AMERICAN EDITION, with Notes and References to recent English and American Cases. By WM. S. SCHUYLER, Counsellor-at-law. Albany, 1861.

This second American edition of the standard work of Fry is prepared by Mr. Schuyler as his first contribution to the advancement of legal science. The notes of the editor are judicious and comprehensive. The authorities are carefully and extensively examined, and their conclusions appear to be accurately stated. We hope that the encouragement given by the members of the bar to this work may induce the editor to continue in this department of professional labor, in which he promises to be highly successful.

T. W. D.